1	2	3	4	5
14.	Godhra	77	3502	109
15.	Himatnagar (Sabarkantha)	7	3039	65
16.	Surendranagar	0	1696	20
17.	Valsad & Dangs	1382	11886	206
	TOTAL:	15845	217584	13035

Total waiting list in Gujarat as on 31.1.94 = 15845+217584+13035=246464

Telephone Connections in Panchayats, Villages and Hospitals in the Country

790. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to provide telephone connections in all the panchayats, villages and hospitals in the country;

(b) if so, whether telephone connections have been provided in all the panchayats, villages and hospitals in Madhya Pradesh;

(c) if so, to what extent these connections were provided in 1993;

(d) what are the telephone connections that will be installed during 1994; and

(e) by when all the panchayats, villages and hospitals are likely to be provided the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. Government have adopted a policy to provide telephone facility to all Panchayats, villages and one free telephone to each major/District Hospital in the cities where emergency patients are admitted.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The extent of such connections provided upto 31.12.1993 in Panchayat Villages/Villages is given in statement, (*see* below). The details of telephones provided in hospitals in the country are being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(d) The targets fixed for providing telephone facility to Panchayat villages during the year 1993-94 is given in the Annexure. No such targets are fixed for the hospitals.

(e) (i) All the Panchayats villages are likely to be provided with Public telephone facility by March, 1995 progressively subject to availability of resources.

(ii) All the villages will be provided with telephone facility by the year 2000 A.D.

(iii) All the major/District Hospitals were planned to be provided with free telephone facility by 15th August, 1991. The details of the installed telephones are being collected as stated in (c) above.

Statement

Status of Panchayats and Villages with Telephone Facility as on 31.12.1993.

Sl. No.	Circle	Total No. of Panchayat Villages	Total No of villages	Number of Panchayat with Tel. Facility upto 31.12.93	Number of Villages with Tel. Facility upto 31.12.93	Target for 1993-94
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Andhra Pradesh	19533	27221	12728	13777	3600
2	Assam	2485	22224	1528	1950	620
3	Bihar	11762	67566	6210	7908	3020
4	Gujarat	13147	18518	7414	7514	4500
5	Haryana	5792	6745	4237	4351	1250

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	Himachal Pradesh	2597	16916	1248	2134	250
7	Jammu & Kashmir	1461	6503	631	844	80
8	Karnataka	8335	26826	6350	6350	1500
9	Kerala	982	1530	982	1470	Nil
10	Madhya Pradesh	23523	71352	12512	12512	6000
11	Maharashtra	24937	36187	11155	11155	6000
12	North-East	4084	15192	1212	1414	600
13	Orissa	4411	46992	4010	4652	800
14	Punjab	11748	12188	6470	6470	3000
15	Rajasthan	7562	33305	6154	6346	1800
16	Tamilnadu	13288	15735	10422	10423	3000
17	Uttar Pradesh	73741	112508	14845	16420	10000
18	West Bengal	3486	38679	2295	2781	800
19	Delhi MTNL	101	243	191	191	Nil
	Total:	233060	576490	110591	118670	46820

Inoperative Telephones in Bombay

791. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total number of inoperative telephones in 819 exchange of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited Mumbai during November and December, 1993 and what was the largest duration of telephones remaining dead; and

(b) whether Government are aware that a large number of telephones in Bhayander area of M.T.N.L., Mumbai were made inoperative since the subscribers had not paid Diwali bakshis to M.T.N.L. Staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) November, 93....670 December, 93 ....605.

However, these telephones were not inoperative throughout the month but for an average fault duration of about 33 hrs. The largest duration of a telephone being faulty was 20 days due to a cable fault.

(b) No such complaint has been lodged with MTNL.

Inadequate post offices in major cities

792. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of post offices required as per public demand and population are quite inadequate particularly in major cities;

(b) whether Government would consider taking reserved plots earmarked for this public utility from municipalities, State Governments and develop them on a semi-commercial basis; and

(c) whether Government are likely to approve private parties proposals for such type of ventures on reserved plots for public utility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Post Offices are opened taking into consideration the departmental norms in respect of distance, population and income, Public demand is also taken into considerations in this respect provided the proposal satisfies these norms.

(b) and (c) There is no such proposal at present.

Merger of M.T.N.L. and D.O.T.

793. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to wind up MTNL